



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

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Division Director

September 18, 1998

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tony Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer *adg*

RE: Site Inspection, Larry Allred, Unpermitted Mine Operation, S/047/068, Uintah County, Utah

Date of Inspection: August 12, 1998
Time of Inspection: 1320 - 1400
Conditions: overcast, warm, windy
Participants: Tony Gallegos, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To examine the suspected mine site

This site is located approximately in the NW quarter of section 24, T4S, R20E, SLBM. This location straddles the Vernal NE and Vernal NW quad maps. The site is accessed by taking state road 121 from Maeser toward Lapoint and turning northwest onto a dirt road for approximately 0.6 miles. The site is near the intersection of two separate overhead power lines. The main access road is shown on the quad maps.

There was no one present at the site upon my arrival. Features at the site included: a warehouse building, pallets, asphalt piles, a hot mix circuit, fuel tanks, gravel piles, and a rectangular shaped open pit excavation. The access road to the site leads into a flat pad area where the asphalt and gravel piles are located. The pit excavation is located to the east of the pad area. Overburden from the pit has been pushed out to the sides exposing the asphalt deposit in the center.

At approximately 13:45 a truck hauling asphalt arrived at the site. I spoke with Cliff, the driver, about the permitting requirements for this operation. He acknowledged that the equipment belonged to Larry Allred. I gave him one of my cards and a copy of a Small Mine Operation Notice of Intention form to forward to Larry with the instruction that this form needs to be submitted as soon as possible. He was trucking asphalt from Larry's stockpile at the old Aroc site now being operated by Crown Asphalt Corporation. A short time later Mark Allred

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arrived at the site in a pickup truck. I explained the need for a mine permit for this site to Mark. He informed me that Uintah County had performed the actual excavation of the asphalt deposit at the site for Larry. Mark believed this property is owned by the Barnes family.

The disturbed area for the pit excavation is approximately 700 feet long and 190 feet wide, measured from the outer edge of the overburden. The pit is on the northwest side of a small knoll and is located at a level lower than the main access road. An existing road runs parallel to the east side of the pit. Overburden from the excavation is pushed out to the sides without any signs of segregation of the topsoil or upper soil layer. No asphalt material appears to have been removed from the excavation at this time. The warehouse building, hot mix plant, asphalt piles and gravel piles are located on a large flat area which includes a truck turnaround and some older equipment. At this time it is difficult to specifically assign a disturbed acreage to this flat area, however a general estimate would be 1½ to 2 acres.

In conclusion, the site includes an asphalt staging area and plant adjacent to an open pit mine excavation. Division files do not contain an exploration or small mine notice for this project. The land ownership of this area is unknown. The mine excavation was created without prior approval from the Division. Total surface disturbance at this site is visually estimated between four and five acres, although there is a large amount of uncertainty regarding the facilities area disturbed acreage. Photographs were taken of the various aspects of the site to document the current disturbances. A notice of intention will need to be immediately submitted for this operation.

jb
cc: Larry Allred, Operator
larrynoi.ins



